

PATENT HATTON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE VED

In re Application of:

APR 2 2 2004

Kazuhiro TAKEUCHI

Technology Center 2600

Serial No.: 10/018,477

Group Art Unit: 2651

Filed: December 19, 2001

Examiner: Unassigned

For: OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS AND OPTICAL

DISC DISCRIMINATING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 PLEASE ACCEPT THIS AS AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT OR CREDIT FEES TO DEP. ACCT. 16-0331 PARKHURST & WENDEL

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

The attached references were cited in a Japanese Patent Office Action dated March 16, 2004 in the corresponding Japanese patent application. The USPTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R.

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1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the USPTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

<u>April 21, 2004</u>
Date

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